

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 02979 231231Z

46

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GW, PO

SUBJECT: CDU/CSU CONTACT SCHEDULED WITH GALVAO DE MELO

UNION INTERNATIONAL, ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS SERVICE OF  
THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION COALITION, ISSUED FEBRUARY 16  
THE FOLLOWING RELEASE CONCERNING THE VISIT OF GENERAL  
GALVAO DE MELO TO THE FRG:

BEGIN TEXT:

PORTUGAL: GENERAL GALVAO DE MELO TO VISIT GERMANY.  
GENERAL GALVAO DE MELO, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE "DEMO-  
CRATIC SOCIAL CENTRE," THE CDS, IN PORTUGAL'S CONSTIT-  
UENT ASSEMBLY, WILL BE VISITING THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC  
FROM FEBRUARY 22 TO 28, 1976, AND WILL MEET LEADING  
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CDU/CSU, WHICH HAS FOR A LONG  
TIME BEEN COOPERATING WITH THE CDS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK  
OF THE "EUROPEAN UNION OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS" (UEDC).  
AFTER HIS ARRIVAL GALVAO DE MELO WILL BE THE GUEST OF  
UEDC PRESIDENT KAI-UWE VON HASSEL AT A LUNCHEON GIVEN  
IN HIS HONOR. FOR THE FOLLOWING DAYS TALKS WITH  
PROFESSOR CARSTENS, CDU CHAIRMAN HELMUT KOHL, CDU SECRE-  
TARY-GENERAL PROFESSOR BIEDENKOPF AND MEMBERS OF THE  
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PAGE 02 BONN 02979 231231Z

CDU'S SOCIAL COMMITTEES (ADOLF MUELLER MDB AND ALBRECHT

HASINGER) HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED. DE MELO WILL PAY A VISIT TO KONRAD ADENAUER'S HOUSE IN RHOENDORF AND THE KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION. QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO PRACTICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CDU AND THE CDS WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED WITH DR. HEINRICH BOEX, HEAD OF THE CDU'S BUREAU FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS. ON FEBRUARY 26 DE MELO WILL BE IN BERLIN AND DELIVER A SPEECH ON "PORTUGAL'S FUTURE IN A FREE EUROPE." ON FEBRUARY 27 THE PORTUGUESE GUEST WILL MEET WITH WALTHER LEISLER KIEP MDB IN FRANKFURT. HE WILL THEN PROCEED TO MUNICH WHERE HIS PROGRAM INCLUDES TALKS WITH CSU CHAIRMAN FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS AND BAVARIAN MINISTER PRESIDENT ALFONS GOPPEL.

BACKGROUND: THE GENERAL WAS AN AIRFORCE PILOT IN THE PORTUGUESE COLONIAL WAR, BUT RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION IN PROTEST AGAINST SALAZAR'S POLICY. UNDER SPINOLA'S PRESIDENCY HE WAS ASKED BY HIS COMRADES TO REPRESENT THEM IN THE REVOLUTIONARY JUNTA. TODAY GALVAO DE MELO IS DIRECTOR OF AN OIL COMPANY AND WRITES BOOKS. HE IS A STAUNCH ANTI-COMMUNIST AND HIS FEARLESS STANCE AND HIS PATRIOTISM HAVE EARNED HIM THE RESPECT OF LARGE SECTIONS OF THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE. ACCORDING TO OPINION POLLS HE IS THE FAVORITE CANDIDATE IN THE ELECTIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF STATE.

DE MELO IS A FRIEND OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. IN ONE OF HIS BOOKS HE DESCRIBED IT AS A MODEL EXAMPLE OF DEMOCRACY BY CONTRAST WITH THE DICTATORSHIPS OF EAST EUROPEAN COMMUNISM. END TEXT.  
HILLENBRAND

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